

The journey of love

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You are primarily where you are because of your longing for more of Him. He used to still this longing by visiting you through His presence and power, and sometimes revival. Yet, you were not satisfied with this. You desired more. You desired more of Him. You wanted to know Him personally. Yet for Him to still this longing in your heart, He could no longer do what He used to do. For in the past He used to visit you wherever you were on your journey because of your prayers and desire. But at a certain stage, in order for you to go deeper (get closer) in Him, you had to begin to follow Him to the place where He resides. He wanted to take you home to be with Him. This triggered your journey. We need to pause here for a moment to gain proper understanding. Your journey is thus primarily a journey of longing after Him. It is not primarily a journey away from 'the wrong'. Neither is it a journey about black and white, or the destruction of the clergy/layity divide, or the finding of a new/better kind of church. Neither is it primarily about the dying to self or the life of Christ.

It is primarily about His love that is drawing you closer to Him.

As liberating and powerful as this might be to the hungry and thirsty heart, it is also quite offensive. It is offensive to self because it implies utter grace. It implies that whatever progress I have made along my journey deeper into God was simply His doing. It was simply His love drawing me. It really had little to do with my own strength of will, or my selling of everything, or the superior knowledge I had received, or the great sacrifices I have made. It was about Him drawing me away in love. It was about Him telling me to leave all behind in order to simply be with Him. How offensive is that!

Does that mean it is solely about love? Yes. Nothing more and nothing less.

This is the critical issue. For when I try to define my journey deeper into Him by anything but His love drawing me, I tend to get into real trouble. Self desires clarity. Self desires control. Self demands knowledge. Self seeks recognition. In as much as I long to be healed by His love, I also struggle to find myself in this world. As much as His love liberates me, it does not really help in recognizing and realizing who I am!!

And therefore I many times get off the path of His love in order to give self some relieve in its quest for identity, gratification and success. It is at these pauses on my journey, that (another) Ismael is born, others are hurt and my relationship with Him becomes frustrated.

No, I have to realize that His love is all I need. His love heals me. His love draws me after Him. His love leads me home. His love clothes me in new robes. His love gives me a new name. His love reveals who I have been born again to be. His love is the real purpose for my life. His love sets me in His family. His love makes me His son.

His love lures me to focus upon Him, forget about (my) self and calls me to simply follow after Him. And thus as I set my eyes upon Him and forget about myself, the less I tend to pause along the journey.

Let us run with Him. Let us not grow weary. Let us set our hearts upon Him alone. In doing so we shall leave sin and this world behind. We shall leave self behind and we shall enter the newness of life that He has purchased and purposed for us, His children. In that day we will find ourselves in the place of holiness and righteousness, and we will live in the family He has intended His church to be.

Be encouraged. Be courageous. Be bold. He is the Way that has been opened. The veil has been torn, therefore let us enter boldly. The Father is longing and watching every day to see when we are coming home.

Although I was lost, He came to get me and take me back to where He lives. How awesome is His love for us!